

## THE DAILY BEE.

OFFICE: No. 914 and 916 FARMAN ST., NEW YORK OFFICE, ROOM 65 TRINITY BUILDING.

Published every morning, except Sunday. The only morning paper published in the state.

TERMS BY MAIL:

One Year, in Advance	\$2.50
Six Months, in Advance	\$1.50
Three Months, in Advance	.90
One Month, in Advance	.30

One Year, without Premium, 1.25  
Six Months, without Premium, .75  
Three Months, without Premium, .45  
One Month, without Premium, .15

All Communications relating to News and Editorial matters should be addressed to the Editor of this paper.

ADVERTISING RATES:

All Business Letters and Remittances should be addressed to THE BEE PUBLISHING CO., PROPRIETORS, 914 and 916 FARMAN ST., NEW YORK.

THE BEE PUBLISHING CO., PROPRIETORS.  
E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR.  
A. H. Fitch, Manager Daily Circulation, Omaha, Nebraska.

OMAHA Belt line stock has advanced several points.

THE failure of the Chicago Current shows that you can't run a magazine without currency.

THE failure of Mr. Roach was a pretty respectable affair after all. He can pay two dollars for every one that he owes. That's the proper way to fail.

"ADULTERATED" liquor must "go" one of the planks of the democratic platform over in Iowa.—Herald.

THE democrats of Iowa could more forcibly have expressed their desire by saying, "Give us whisky, straight."

THE Chicago News is authority for the statement that "for the last two years the Republican (of Omaha) has been edited by a procession of Incubates passing through the office." We always thought that there must be some good reason for the dizzy style of editing that has prevailed in the Republican office.

SUCROSE is becoming fashionable among defaulting bank officials. Not long ago two thieving bank officials in New Jersey killed themselves; another ended his own existence in Texas; and now a Massachusetts' savings bank treasurer has cut his own throat. Canada is evidently losing its attractions for the crooked financiers of this country.

THERE are two democrats to one republican in the board of county commissioners. The appointment of a democrat as the successor to County Clerk Leavitt is therefore no surprise. Mr. Buncke, ex-police judge, is the lucky man. He will no doubt endeavor to conduct the office in a manner satisfactory to the public.

AN associated press telegram has been sent out from St. Paul, Minnesota, assuring the people of the country that there need be no further fear of frost in that section for the present cold wave is now broken. It is suspected that this comforting piece of news has been spread broadcast in the interest of the proprietors of Minnesota health resorts. Their harvest seems to have come to a very sudden and unexpected end.

SPAIN, although paralyzed with cholera, has life enough left to assert its indignant protest against Germany's high-handed attempt to seize the Caroline islands. It was evidently a surprise to Bismarck who has concluded to back down as gracefully as possible. He not only makes an excuse, although a rather thin one, but he also virtually apologizes. Bismarck well knew that Germany is in the wrong, but he has not the decency to say so in language that is plain. He suggests that the difficulty be referred to a commission for amicable adjustment.

WE observe in the Denver papers the name of Tabor as a candidate for the supreme bench of Colorado? Can there be more than one Tabor in that state, or is it the Denver opera-house Tabor, who once represented Colorado in the United States senate? Whoever this Tabor may be, he seems to be meeting with some opposition from the Denver News, hence we infer that he is the ex-United States senator. It strikes us that a man who was considered capable of representing the state in the United States senate, although it was only for thirty days, ought to be regarded equally capable of filling a place on the supreme bench of that commonwealth for a term of equal length.

THE city council, sitting as a board of equalization, has very appropriately decided to satisfy itself as to the number of lots and tracts of land that are wrongfully exempted from taxation under the pretense of a railroad right of way. The inquiry is based upon the charges that the Bex has from time to time made that hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of lots were thus exempted. It will be remembered that the Bex published a detailed list of such lots, taken from the records, and urged that steps be taken to have them put on the assessment rolls and be made to contribute to the resources of the city. The city clerk has compiled a complete list of all of non-tax-paying property and has presented it to the board of equalization for its consideration. The board has referred the matter to a committee consisting of the city attorney, the city engineer and three members of the council, with instructions to determine what property, now upon the exemption list, shall be put upon the assessment roll. The board will then fix the valuation of the property thus made subject to taxation. This is a step in the right direction, and we hope the work will be thoroughly done. We venture to say that the taxpayers will be astonished at the amount of property that will thus be made to yield a revenue to the city treasury.

## ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT.

There is a great deal of truth in the Chicago Herald's criticism of the sleeping car monopoly. Only an athlete can disrobe himself under sleeping car conditions without spraining one or more limbs. The bunks—a better term than berths—are wide enough for one but not for two, and too short for nearly everybody. In winter the cars are either insufferably hot or miserably cold, and they are frequently both in one night. At all times they are almost entirely without ventilation, and the bunks are mere tiers of boxes open on one side. The sleeping car pays nothing for being hauled about the country. It occupies no ground and pays precious little taxes. Concerning the greed of the sleeping car monopolists the Herald says:

"Except in gilt and gaudiness, the sleeping car has utterly failed to keep pace with the times. It is simply the old bunk car repainted. No efforts have been made to effect real improvement in it. Its managers have been too greedy in the race for wealth to pause and give consideration to the comfort of the public. Plenty of valuable improvements have been invented, and care have been devised with which those now in use are not worthy to be compared, but this was the work of outsiders, and the monopoly has refused to expend a dollar in taking advantage thereof. The modern sleeping car is a fraud on the railroads as on the public. The railroads derive no revenue from hauling the big cars—on the contrary, they must incur all the repair expenses, while the sleeping car company gets all the receipts. The railroads do this under the mistaken idea that they are thereby attracting passengers to their lines, and in many cases the sleeping car monopolists actually charge the railroads mileage for every car run. This sleeping car monopoly is greedy, odious and unprogressive. As long as railway managers depend upon it to serve the public they as well as the public will be imposed upon."

THE Herald, upon whose recommendation Postmaster Morgan, of Kearney, was appointed, naturally comes to his defense, and with a refreshing audacity asserts that republicans are responsible for the mismanagement of Mr. Morgan's office. Even if true, this assertion is no defense whatever. Dr. Miller and the democratic administration are responsible for Mr. Morgan's appointment, and Mr. Morgan is responsible for the administration of affairs in his office. Aside from the theft of registered letters in the office by his rascally deputy, whose character he well knew, the mails have otherwise been wretchedly handled greatly to the annoyance of the people of Kearney, who simply demand that a competent business man be made postmaster. The Kearney postoffice is an important office, and its business should be conducted in a manner satisfactory to the public. The Herald knows that it states what is false when it says that "the Kearney office under his (Morgan's) control has been faithfully and ably conducted by him in spite of the democratic-republican conspiracy to destroy him and injure the democratic party." It is true that democrats and republicans alike have denounced the appointment of Morgan, but it has not been on account of politics, but for legitimate business reasons, as the result shows. So far as any attempt to injure the democratic party is concerned, no one is responsible for that except the democratic boss who recommended Morgan for appointment.

THE constant decline of wheat in the speculative market is not at all consistent with the acknowledged shortage in the crop. The natural tendency for wheat should have been upward for the last month, but instead of that it has been dropping from day to day. The only explanation is that the depression is the result of a brace game being played by the grain gamblers. It is an outrage upon the producers of this country that the prices of their products should be controlled by a lot of gamblers, whose transactions are all imaginary and simply of a betting character. It is also an outrage upon consumers that the main articles of food should be made the tools of gamblers who dotate the prices, without even so much as making an actual purchase. The system is all wrong, and is ruinous to the legitimate methods of business, based upon actual transactions, which are governed by the law of supply and demand. There should certainly be a stringent law passed in every state making it a penitentiary offense to gamble in the articles of food. Grain and stock speculation, as now conducted, is more ruinous than any other kind of gambling. It affects the whole country, and is the cause of nearly all the large defalcations. It has sent more men to the penitentiary, has pauperized more families, and has robbed more bank depositors than all the other gambling games put together. It is time to call a halt.

A NEWBORN of Romeo Conkling is reported to have challenged a naval lieutenant to fight a duel because the latter had dared to criticize Gen. Grant's character. The nephew of his uncle seems to have forgotten that this a country of free speech. Gen. Grant while living was criticized by men who have the same right to express their ideas now that he is dead, although the propriety of doing so during the period of mourning is questionable.

THE Republican cannot reasonably question the fitness of Gen. Van Wyck to serve as a United States senator, but it questions his fitness to serve as a republican senator. We admit that Van Wyck is totally unfit to become a senator of the republican-monopoly stripe. He is not that kind of a man. He is, however, loyal to the true principles of republicanism and believes in the purification of the republican party, which became demoralized by a lot of political hacks, land-

grabbers, jobbers of all kinds, and monopolists, who always join hands with the party in power in order to promote their own nefarious schemes. Van Wyck is a man of the people, whose interests he has most faithfully represented in the national legislature. If the people of Nebraska do not want him to represent them a second term it is for them to say, and not for any monopoly organ to decide.

THE conviction of Baddensieck, the contractor of "skin" buildings in New York, is having its effect. Two contractors have been pronounced by a coroner in Hoboken guilty of manslaughter, because of the death of two laborers by the falling of a wall. The accident also injured one of the contractors, who is yet in hospital, but will be sent to jail to join his partner as soon as he is out of danger.

SUPERINTENDENT LANE has issued a very useful little pamphlet containing the complete census returns of Nebraska for 1885. It gives the population of the cities, towns and counties, and the number of farms and manufacturing industries. Mr. Lane has finished his work, which he has performed very efficiently.

THE Mexican editors who lately visited the United States have been joyously welcomed home. They have traveled 14,000 miles in the land of the Yankee without a single accident, and the trip cost them about \$75 apiece, which, says the New York Commercial Advertiser, is about as monumental a piece of dand-headedness as there is on record.

EVERY time the \$2,000 secretaries of the railway commission take snuff, the Lincoln Journal sneezes.

## THE BUSINESS SITUATION.

Evidence is furnished from nearly every quarter that the entire business situation is shaping for a general and permanent change for the better. One of the immediate causes of this change is of course the opening of the fall trade, which will soon be in full bloom. There is, it is true, various interests that have not yet evidenced any noteworthy improvement, and in which the signs of prospective betterment are not yet clearly defined; but the elements of general business and industrial recuperation are abundant and strong. Popular hopefulness in this respect has not been so widespread nor apparently so well grounded for two years past. The week's failures in the United States and Canada, number 177, as against 168 last week and 180 in the previous week. The failures continue light in most sections of the country, especially in the southern states. The Pacific states alone show no decrease.

During the past week there has been an increased activity in various branches of trade, notably in wool and its manufactures and in cotton goods. The cotton markets have declined 1/2 cent as a result of favorable crop prospects and unsatisfactory trade reports from Liverpool. Stocks are light, and there is rather more demand from speculators whose products are meeting with wider sale; but the manufacturers are indisposed to anticipate requirements pending the marketing of the new crop, which will probably give them an opportunity to stock up at low prices. Cotton yarns are selling more freely, but there is no appreciable change in prices. On many lines of staple cotton goods, however, prices have advanced 2 1/2 to 5 per cent, and the trade generally is more active, with an improving outlook. Wool has continued in brisk demand, and large sales have been made in all markets. The late advance is well maintained and the situation favors sellers. The fall trade in woolen goods is assuming more general activity, and everything points to a satisfactory season's business. There has been a better business in steel rails, but large orders have been generally taken at unchanged prices, and the advance talked of in the trade is, to a great extent, nominal. There is a good deal of activity in wrought pipe, and some improvement is noted in the demand for bar, sheet and plate iron, but crude iron continues dull. Builders' hardware and building materials of all kinds are in good demand at firm prices. The Philadelphia Record, in its weekly review of the grain market, says:

Wheat prices declined 5 cents per bushel early in the week, as a result of the continued pressure to realize by the overvalued long interest in the speculative market. This made a total decline of 8 to 9 cents per bushel within less than a fortnight, and at this point, after a large share of the "long" stocks had been shifted to new hands, the downward tendency was checked. Naturally, after a break in prices of this character there has been considerable buying, and the wind-sellers, who have realized enormous profits from the decline, have grown more cautious, and show disposition to hold off for later developments. Exporters have taken considerable wheat at the decline; and the fact that foreign values have been comparatively undisturbed by the reduction in American prices encourages the hope of a large outward movement in the near future. The course of the market in the next few weeks will be largely determined by the conduct of foreign buyers. The belief prevails that it demand from abroad becomes active enough to reduce the present accumulation of wheat at the commercial centers, present rates will be sustained without trouble; but if the grain in stocks goes on as before, a further decline is anticipated, unless speculation intervenes to support the working of the natural laws of trade. There is no reliable crop news relating to any material difference from the national bureau estimate of the probable yield of 37,000,000 bushels. The corn trade has continued moderately active on home and foreign orders. At present everything points to a crop in excess of that of any previous year. There has been little change in prices, but the market is generally a shade lower, partly from sympathy with wheat and owing to the promise of an enormous crop.

## WESTERN NEWS.

OMAHA. Cass county has 221 old soldiers. Peshawar has 759 inhabitants. Grand Forks has a population of 6,755. A twenty-five-barrel roller mill will be put up in Dunsmuir.

Grand Forks people have subscribed \$15,000 for a saw mill.

The assessed valuation of Cass county is \$354,321.

The corn crop about Pierre will yield from 40 to 70 bushels per acre.

The assessment of personal property in Fargo is placed at \$1,000,000.

The prospective grasshopper invasion from Montana is the cause of considerable speculation.

Yankton estimates its building improvements at \$100,000 in value by the close of the building season.

The Sioux Falls Leader says an eastern syndicate is preparing to invest \$300,000 in that county the coming year.

Rains have delayed the harvest in the Red River valley. The Russian fly is said to have appeared in a few isolated places.

The Deadwood Times reports lightning and rattlesnakes as unusually active and dangerous in that locality the present season.

The territorial census returns a population of 413,190, a little more than one-third being north of the forty-sixth parallel.

The maidens' drum corps, of Canton, composed of a dozen young ladies, is said, will attend the militia encampment at Fargo.

New wheat being received at Woonsocket is reported to be heavy on account of its being so damp, not having been given time to properly cure.

The Presbyterian of northern Dakota decided to raise a fund of \$50,000 at an early date. The local committee is representing the college at the town named.

The harvest of small grain is now well under way in the country surrounding the Black Hills and reports come in from all sections of the valleys that it is above expectations.

The annual reunion of the G. A. R. will be held at Deadwood September 15, 16 and 17. Preparations are being made for the entertainment of 1,500 veterans and fully 5,000 visitors are expected.

Ranch owners along the proposed route of the Northwestern extension, between Buffalo and Cheyenne rivers, to sell the iron-work and other material at a reasonable price and consequently retard grading operations.

The coal prospecting company on the Snake river has been continuing to meet with promising indications, the last drilling showing three and a half feet of coal at about the same depth of the former sinkings.

Forty acres of wheat near Kellogg, was acknowledged to be among the best in the town before the fall, only yielded 22 bushels. The same field only yielded five bushels to the acre, barley five, and oats ten to thirty-five.

The ambitious town of Napoleon will not be found on any map, but it is the county seat of the new county of Napoleon.

A store has been erected and the county officials are quartered in that, using empty barrels and boxes for seats and desks. A surveyor is laying out the future city.

At Yankton Thursday evening W. G. Dickey, a saloonkeeper, and Thomas O'Brien quarreled about some money the former had taken from the latter's pocket.

A petition is being circulated in Deadwood for the pardon of Joseph Card, recently sentenced to the penitentiary for a term of ten years. The convict's wife, since his incarceration a few months ago, has become insane, and she will be unable to care for the wife and mother is an inmate of the Yankton hospital and the children are waifs on the world's charity.

Harry Dawes, supposed to be a cousin of Governor Dawes, of Nebraska, residing about seven miles northwest of Tyndall, is mysteriously missing. He went to the stable at Tyndall and Cheyenne river, and was subsequently found two miles from home. He had complained of toothache during the day, and it is thought he started to have it out. He had about \$200 on his person and some other property is that he was waylaid and murdered.

The territorial grand jury for Lawrence county reported the debt of the county to be about \$300,000 and presented sixty-two indictments among which are indictments against the members of the board of county commissioners and the assessor, charged with malfeasance in assessment and equalization of the taxes of the county by which upwards of \$200,000 in taxes has been lost to the treasury of the county in the last two years. The interest bearing debt of the county is reported at about \$700,000.

## WYOMING.

The Laramie club has purchased ground and built a \$20,000 club house.

The oats crop around Lander will yield thirty bushels to the acre, and the few fields of wheat planted will go thirty-five bushels.

Desperado Smith, a notorious stock thief, has been captured by a posse of men and is now in the custody of the sheriff at Lander. He is said to be a very dangerous man.

Mrs. H. N. Benjamin was the victim of a buggy collision at Cheyenne, last week. One of the wheels of the buggy struck her in the side and severely injured her.

A freight train, east-bound, was smashed up four miles west of Cheyenne, on the 20th inst. The train consisted of two engines and two passenger cars, and was carrying a large amount of freight. Three men riding as stowaways were injured and supposed to be under the wreck.

Damage to rolling stock and contents, \$75,000. The train was stopped for 24 hours. Reports from the oil region continue to be of the most favorable character, and recent developments tend to give the greatest encouragement. The Denver company are down on their project, a distance of 1,100 feet and have a good showing, but propose to sink 500 feet further. The Twin Creek oil company, near Evanston, struck a flowing stream of lubricating oil at a depth of 120 feet.

## COLORADO.

Gunnison county is in the hole \$159,000. Denver claims to rank fourth as a Chinese center in this country.

The Loveland artesian well has reached a depth of 2,150 and no water.

## FIRE FIGHTERS.

## Prospective Improvements of the Omaha Fire Department.

Company No. 5—The One's New Home—A Talk With the Chief—The Tournament.

The Omaha fire department which from the early days has been the community's great element of pride is advancing at equal pace with the progress of the city. Recent transactions of municipal business have offered the opportunity and by the grace of the common council, some such improvements as the following will be made:

THE NEW No. 5's.

Not long since the city purchased, at a cost of \$2,900 from Mr. Jos. Bell, a property lot 60x140 feet on Sheridan street near the head of St. Mary's avenue. At the same time, in the general transfer which attended the recent deal between the city, the county and Mr. Paxton, a finely conditioned barn upon the latter's lot at the corner of Eighteenth and Farnam street, fell into the possession of the city. This structure will be removed to the ground purchased of Mr. Bell and remodeled into a thorough fire station. It will be equipped with a horse cart and steamer, three horses will be purchased for its service and three men will be stationed there.

Chief Butler considers this a good departure, as the beautiful residence quarter which is springing up about that portion of the city has protection from fire, at this time, alone in that afforded by the companies far away in town.

THE CHANGE OF THE 1's.

Company No. 1 is to be rescued from the old site near Cummings street, which it now occupies, and will be given new quarters in a fine building which is to be erected at the corner of Cummings and Saunders. The site, 65x127 feet, was bought of Mr. J. M. Armstrong at a cost of \$2,000. A handsome, capacious brick structure will be put up capable of accommodating the four men of the company, the horse cart, steamer and a hook and ladder truck which the future will doubtless require added to the apparatus. The building will be two stories high with a ball tower and all the ornamental details deemed reasonable to properly grace the thriving, fast-growing portion of the city where it is situated.

THE FATE OF THE 3's.

"What is to become of the Three's?" was asked of Chief Butler yesterday. This company occupies the site at the corner of Sixteenth and Farnam, purchased by the Board of Trade for a new chamber of commerce.

The chief greeted the question with a shrug of his shoulders and said briefly, "I give it up. I was talking with a member of the Board of Trade yesterday and he told me that we might expect notice to vacate any day. It probably behooves the council to find a new location."

## COST OF FIRE HORSES.

"What do fire department horses cost?" was asked of the chief as the conversation continued.

"All the way from \$200 to \$250. We select always the best animals we can find. A fire horse, you see, must combine fair speed with good draft capacity. You have doubtless observed that in all properly conducted departments, the horses are large, handsome fellows. They must be strong for a team of the sort to drag the heavy apparatus at a gallop. If you ever rode on the cart or truck, you have without doubt appreciated the dizzy speed made on a run."

## THE GRAND ISLAND TOURNAMENT.

Chief Butler is warm in his comments upon the courtesy shown to both the Omaha delegation and himself at Grand Island during the state tournament last week. He says that the people of Grand Island left nothing undone to complete a most generous reception for all the city's guests. The Danvers confined themselves to a part in the parade, but the Pomplers went in to win laurels. The company consisted of Captain Fisher, Chief Butler, Henry Rogers, Fred Schmidt and Aug. Uthoff. The exhibitors were given upon a five story mill, and Omaha was the prize of the day.

The proceedings in the sessions of the board of control were amiable and businesslike, much to the associations' revival of credit. Only one little unpleasantness occurred and that was of an individual character. Chief Lederman is a member of the Grand Island horse team and won the medal for fast coupling. On the next day his team was beaten in the race and a range to some persons accused Mr. Lederman of selling out. He was infuriated and at the banquet that night created a sensational scene by a burst of denunciations. He seemed delirious with rage and produced a hatchet, chopped and battered his handsome gold coupling medal to fragments, upon the table. Mr. Lederman, although grievously wronged, is believed to have been extreme in his wrath, especially upon the festive occasion he selected to display it.

The location of next year's tournament will be determined at a business meeting of the executive committee to be held within the month, subject to the call of the chairman.

## RAISING MONEY.

The Board of Equalization Decides to Lock Up the Unassessed Property of the City.

The city council met as a board of equalization Monday night for important business.

The city clerk, by deputy W. J. Hahn submitted a report, in accordance with a resolution passed at the last meeting, showing all the unassessed real estate in the city, including railroad property outside of right of way limits, church, and city property, inclusive of school grounds, etc. The report was very full and exhaustive and bore out the statement of the Bex, of February 20th, regarding the vast amount of unassessed railroad property in this city, which ought to be assessed. It was referred to a committee, consisting of President Bechel, Councilmen Lee and Furey, City Engineer Rosewater, and the city attorney. Mr. Rosewater will examine the property listed in the report, and see that it is correctly recorded, while the city attorney will determine how much of it can be legally taxed. The board of equalization will then determine the rate of taxation to be applied. A meeting of the board of equalization will be held next Monday.

A correspondent of the New York Evening Post suggests as one of the most fitting memorials to Gen. Grant, the establishment of an annex to the Metropolitan Museum of Art, to be devoted exclusively to the acquisition and preservation of annals and histories of the late war.

Nine monuments are at present projected in this country.

Ex-Gov. Cornell, of New York, says \$5,000,000 can be raised for the Grant monument fund in that city, "with proper effort."

San Francisco will plant a Grant monument on one of the high cliffs of the Golden Gate.

A little over \$5,000 have been collected for the monument at Fort Leavenworth.

Council Bluffs talks of erecting a memorial fountain in Exiles park, in the heart of the city.

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when the subject will be further discussed.

"What we want to do," said President Bechel to the reporter yesterday, "is to find just to what extent these railroads are beating the city out of taxes. Then we shall assess the property not come for right of way and make them come to time."

Another councilman expressed himself to the effect that while he did not think the city assessment could be legally raised 25 per cent, this year for the benefit of the general fund, he did believe that a considerable amount of money could be raised by forcing the Omaha Pacific and the Burlington & Missouri railroads to pay a just amount of taxation on the property not exempt under right of way privileges. The railroads had been "beating" the city long enough he thought, and should be forced to bear a share of the municipal burdens.

It is said that there is also a considerable amount of church property held for speculative purposes, now lying untaxed, which is included in the report of the city clerk as worthy of being assessed.

Setting an Old Case.